

BOOK REVIEW — BUCHBESPRECHUNG

D. B. OWEN; *Handbook of Statistical Tables*

Pergamon Press; London, Paris — Addison-Wesley Publishing Co. Inc.; Reading, Massachusetts, Palo Alto, London. 1962.

Statistics have become more and more important in the every-day practice of applied mathematics, classical physics, atomic physics, mechanical, electrical and chemical engineering, economics. Therefore we must accept this publication with friendliness and cordiality, summarizing the most useful tables of statistics.

As the preface emphasizes, this book of tables is especially intended for three kinds of readers: first for the student in statistics, second for the practicing statistician, quality control man or industrial engineer, and third for the scientific or research worker. All these specialists will find, in the collection of tables, many functions more extensively tabulated than ever before, thus enabling them to get answers with a minimum of interpolation and other calculations.

The utilization of tables is facilitated by the circumstance that each section begins with definitions and summary of fundamental relations.

Some examples are also included to define certain parameters in terms of the quantities tabulated. Sometimes the main relations are illustrated by graphs.

It is an interesting fact that most tables have directly been reproduced from the output of digital computers. On the other

hand, some tables were taken from journals, periodicals or books.

The finding of data is facilitated by "index" and "contents".

The references — altogether 251 items — were chosen from the most recent literature, thus enabling the working back through the bibliographies to the older papers. The book in question contains 580 pages. The material is divided into 20 sections. For the sake of information the titles are as follows:

Normal Distribution. Student's t-Distribution. Chi-Square Distribution. F-Distribution and Multiple Comparison. Noncentral t and Tolerance Limits. Range. Studentized Range, and Mean Square Successive Difference. Order Statistics from the Normal Distribution. Multivariate Normal and t-Distributions. Logistic, Poisson, and Binomial Distributions. Nonparametric Tolerance Limits. Wilcoxon (Mann-Whitney) Tests. Sign, Runs, and Quadrant Tests. Rank Correlation. Nonparametric Analysis of Variance. Kolmogorov-Smirnov Statistics. Cramér-von Mises, and Random Division of an Interval Distribution. Matching and Multinomial Distributions. Hypergeometric Distribution. Product Moment Correlation Coefficient. Orthogonal Polynomials, Random Numbers, and Constants.

Undoubtedly the "Handbook of Statistical Tables" is very valuable and a useful source of the most important and essential data in the field of statistics.

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